Serial Number: 09/923,288

CLEAN COPY OF THE AMENDED PORTIONS OF THE APPLICATION

In the Claims

Sub A1 > 1. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, and the number of threads per unit length in the upper region exceeds the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, said shaft having a cross sectional area along the cylindrical upper region greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region.

C1

Sub A1 > 12. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, wherein the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical upper region is greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region, and the number of threads per unit of length in the upper region exceeds the number of threads per unit length in the lower region.

C2

Sub D1 24. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, wherein there are at C3 least twice as many threads per unit length in the upper region as there are threads per unit length in the lower region, said shaft having a cross sectional area along the cylindrical upper region greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region.

Sub D1 34. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, wherein the number of C4 threads per unit length in the upper region exceeds the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, and the upper region has an inverted buttress thread configuration, said shaft having a cross sectional area along the cylindrical upper region greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region.

Sub D1 45. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool, a bottom surface, a crown that extends around the perimeter of the head and extends beyond the lower surface of the head thereby defining an open C5 volume between the lower edge of the crown and the shaft of the screw;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip and the number of

threads per unit length in the upper region exceeds the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, said shaft having a cross sectional area along the cylindrical upper region greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region.

52. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool, a bottom surface, a crown that extends around the perimeter of the head, wherein the crown extends beyond the lower surface of the head, forming a recessed region between the lower edge of the crown and the shaft of the screw;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, and the number of threads per unit length in the upper region exceeds the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, said shaft having a cross sectional area along the cylindrical upper region greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region.

59. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool and a bottom surface having a v-shaped undercut;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, and the number of threads per unit length in the upper region exceeds the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, said shaft having a cross sectional area along the cylindrical upper region greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region.

68. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, wherein the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical upper region is greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region, the number of threads per unit length in the upper region is greater than the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, and wherein the upper region has an inverted buttress thread configuration.

94. A screw for securing wood products, comprised of:

a shaft and a head, wherein the head is provided with a top surface having an opening to receive a tool;

wherein the shaft is provided with a substantially cylindrical threaded upper region located proximate the head and a substantially cylindrical threaded lower region located near a distal end of the screw, the distal end having a tip, wherein the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical upper region is greater than the cross sectional area of the shaft along the cylindrical lower region, the number of threads per unit length in the upper region are at least twice the number of threads per unit length in the lower region, and wherein the upper region has an inverted buttress thread configuration.